

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 217

To amend the National Trails System Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to update the feasibility and suitability studies of four national historic trails, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 13, 2009

Mr. HATCH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To amend the National Trails System Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to update the feasibility and suitability studies of four national historic trails, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. REVISION OF FEASIBILITY AND SUITABILITY**  
4                       **STUDIES OF EXISTING NATIONAL HISTORIC**  
5                       **TRAILS.**

6       Section 5 of the National Trails System Act (16  
7       U.S.C. 1244) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
8       lowing:

1       “(g) REVISION OF FEASIBILITY AND SUITABILITY  
2 STUDIES OF EXISTING NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS.—

3               “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

4                       “(A) ROUTE.—The term ‘route’ includes a  
5 trail segment commonly known as a cutoff.

6                       “(B) SHARED ROUTE.—The term ‘shared  
7 route’ means a route that was a segment of  
8 more than one historic trail, including a route  
9 shared with an existing national historic trail.

10               “(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR REVISION.—

11                       “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the  
12 Interior shall revise the feasibility and suit-  
13 ability studies for certain national trails for  
14 consideration of possible additions to the trails.

15                       “(B) STUDY REQUIREMENTS AND OBJEC-  
16 TIVES.—The study requirements and objectives  
17 specified in subsection (b) shall apply to a study  
18 required by this subsection.

19                       “(C) COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF  
20 STUDY.—A study listed in this subsection shall  
21 be completed and submitted to Congress not  
22 later than 3 complete fiscal years from the date  
23 funds are made available for the study.

24               “(3) OREGON NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—

1           “(A) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of  
 2           the Interior shall undertake a study of the  
 3           routes of the Oregon Trail listed in subpara-  
 4           graph (B) and generally depicted on the map  
 5           entitled ‘Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870’  
 6           and dated 1991/1993, and of such other routes  
 7           of the Oregon Trail that the Secretary con-  
 8           siders appropriate, to determine the feasibility  
 9           and suitability of designation of one or more of  
 10          the routes as components of the Oregon Na-  
 11          tional Historic Trail.

12           “(B) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be  
 13          studied under subparagraph (A) shall include  
 14          the following:

- 15                   “(i) Whitman Mission route.
- 16                   “(ii) Upper Columbia River.
- 17                   “(iii) Cowlitz River route.
- 18                   “(iv) Meek cutoff.
- 19                   “(v) Free Emigrant Road.
- 20                   “(vi) North Alternate Oregon Trail.
- 21                   “(vii) Goodale’s cutoff.
- 22                   “(viii) North Side alternate route.
- 23                   “(ix) Cutoff to Barlow road.
- 24                   “(x) Naches Pass Trail.

1           “(4) PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL HISTORIC  
 2 TRAIL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall under-  
 3 take a study of the approximately 20-mile southern  
 4 alternative route of the Pony Express Trail from  
 5 Wathena, Kansas, to Troy, Kansas, and such other  
 6 routes of the Pony Express Trail that the Secretary  
 7 considers appropriate, to determine the feasibility  
 8 and suitability of designation of one or more of the  
 9 routes as components of the Pony Express National  
 10 Historic Trail.

11           “(5) CALIFORNIA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.—

12           “(A) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of  
 13 the Interior shall undertake a study of the Mis-  
 14 souri Valley, central, and western routes of the  
 15 California Trail listed in subparagraph (B) and  
 16 generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Western  
 17 Emigrant Trails 1830/1870’ and dated 1991/  
 18 1993, and of such other and shared Missouri  
 19 Valley, central, and western routes that the  
 20 Secretary considers appropriate, to determine  
 21 the feasibility and suitability of designation of  
 22 one or more of the routes as components of the  
 23 California National Historic Trail.

“(B) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be studied under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

“(i) MISSOURI VALLEY ROUTES.—

“(I) Blue Mills—Independence Road.

“(II) Westport Landing Road.

“(III) Westport—Lawrence Road.

“(IV) Fort Leavenworth—Blue River route.

“(V) Road to Amazonia.

“(VI) Union Ferry Route.

“(VII) Old Wyoming—Nebraska City cutoff.

“(VIII) Lower Plattsmouth Route.

“(IX) Lower Bellevue Route.

“(X) Woodbury cutoff.

“(XI) Blue Ridge cutoff.

“(XII) Westport Road.

“(XIII) Gum Springs—Fort Leavenworth route.

“(XIV) Atchison/Independence Creek routes.

1 “(XV) Fort Leavenworth—Kan-  
2 sas River route.

3 “(XVI) Nebraska City cutoff  
4 routes.

5 “(XVII) Minersville—Nebraska  
6 City Road.

7 “(XVIII) Upper Plattsmouth  
8 route.

9 “(XIX) Upper Bellevue route.

10 “(ii) CENTRAL ROUTES.—

11 “(I) Cherokee Trail, including  
12 splits.

13 “(II) Weber Canyon route of  
14 Hastings cutoff.

15 “(III) Bishop Creek cutoff.

16 “(IV) McAuley cutoff.

17 “(V) Diamond Springs cutoff.

18 “(VI) Secret Pass.

19 “(VII) Greenhorn cutoff.

20 “(VIII) Central Overland Trail.

21 “(iii) WESTERN ROUTES.—

22 “(I) Bidwell—Bartleson route.

23 “(II) Georgetown/Dagget Pass  
24 Trail.

25 “(III) Big Trees Road.

1 “(IV) Grizzly Flat cutoff.

2 “(V) Nevada City Road.

3 “(VI) Yreka Trail.

4 “(VII) Henness Pass route.

5 “(VIII) Johnson cutoff.

6 “(IX) Luther Pass Trail.

7 “(X) Volcano Road.

8 “(XI) Sacramento—Coloma  
9 Wagon Road.

10 “(XII) Burnett cutoff.

11 “(XIII) Placer County Road to  
12 Auburn.

13 “(6) MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HISTORIC  
14 TRAIL.—

15 “(A) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of  
16 the Interior shall undertake a study of the  
17 routes of the Mormon Pioneer Trail listed in  
18 subparagraph (B) and generally depicted in the  
19 map entitled ‘Western Emigrant Trails 1830/  
20 1870’ and dated 1991/1993, and of such other  
21 routes of the Mormon Pioneer Trail that the  
22 Secretary considers appropriate, to determine  
23 the feasibility and suitability of designation of  
24 one or more of the routes as components of the  
25 Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail.

“(B) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be studied under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

“(i) 1846 Subsequent routes A and B (Lucas and Clarke Counties, Iowa).

“(ii) 1856–57 Handcart route (Iowa City to Council Bluffs).

“(iii) Keokuk route (Iowa).

“(iv) 1847 Alternative Elkhorn and Loup River Crossings in Nebraska.

“(v) Fort Leavenworth Road; Ox Bow route and alternates in Kansas and Missouri (Oregon and California Trail routes used by Mormon emigrants).

“(vi) 1850 Golden Pass Road in Utah.

“(7) SHARED CALIFORNIA AND OREGON TRAIL ROUTES.—

“(A) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of the Interior shall undertake a study of the shared routes of the California Trail and Oregon Trail listed in subparagraph (B) and generally depicted on the map entitled ‘Western Emigrant Trails 1830/1870’ and dated 1991/1993, and of such other shared routes that the



1 Secretary considers appropriate, to determine  
2 the feasibility and suitability of designation of  
3 one or more of the routes as shared components  
4 of the California National Historic Trail and  
5 the Oregon National Historic Trail.

6 “(B) COVERED ROUTES.—The routes to be  
7 studied under subparagraph (A) shall include  
8 the following:

9 “(i) St. Joe Road.

10 “(ii) Council Bluffs Road.

11 “(iii) Sublette cutoff.

12 “(iv) Applegate route.

13 “(v) Old Fort Kearny Road (Oxbow  
14 Trail).

15 “(vi) Childs cutoff.

16 “(vii) Raft River to Applegate.”.

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